



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **FORMER POLICEMAN GETS 9 YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

(Sherman, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a former Whitesboro Police Officer has been sentenced to 108 months in federal prison for possession of obscene visual depictions of the sexual abuse of children in the Eastern District of Texas. **JAMES DOUGLAS BELL**, 61, of Haltom City, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Richard Schell.

U.S. Attorney Orwig was pleased with the sentence, "The sexual exploitation of children through child pornography is an odious crime that robs our children of their dignity and innocence. The defendant deserves every day of this sentence."

According to information presented in court, a family member alerted authorities after discovering the visual depictions involving minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct on Bell's home computer. Bell, a former resident of Whitesboro and a former Whitesboro Police Officer, was indicted on October 13, 2005. He pleaded guilty to the charges on January 9, 2006.

This case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall Blake.

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